A B S T R A C T

The invention relates to a method of automatically classifying alerts issued by intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c) of an information security system (1) for producing collated alerts, each alert being defined by a plurality of qualitative attributes $(a_1,...,a_n)$ belonging to a plurality of attribute domains $(Al,...,An)$, which method comprises the following steps:

· organizing the attributes belonging to each attribute domain into a hierarchical structure;

· constructing for each alert issued by the intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c) a trellis specific to that alert by generalizing each alert in accordance with each of its attributes and at all the levels of the hierarchical structure;

· iteratively merging each specific trellis into a general trellis;

· identifying collated alerts in the general trellis by selecting the alerts that are simultaneously the most pertinent and the most general; and

· supplying the collated alerts to an output unit (23) of an alert management system (13).

Translation of the title and the abstract as they were when originally filed by the Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that may have been made subsequently by the PCT Authorities acting ex officio, e.g. under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.